20. Ensure proper mine closure and restoration of mined out areas. The Coal Regulatory Authority should be given the responsibility to monitor the resotration work. A fee of Rs. 10 per tonne of coal mined as Mine-restoration levy should be collected annually and release as grants on for such work.

21. Coal R & D fund should be created whereby half of one percent of the turnover of all coal companies in the public and private sectors is deposited. CGRA could manage the funds.

Tie up with global mining firms

288. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the state run Coal India Ltd. is looking to tie up with the global mining firms to jointly mines coal abroad;

(b) whether the countryus largest coal firm is looking to secure assets in four countries, *viz.* Indonesia, Australia, South Africa and the US;

(c) if so, whether any agreement has been reached with these countries in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No agreement has so far been reached with any of these countries.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Supply of Coal for Electricity Generation

289. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coal supplied to the State owned electricity generating companies at controlled price and decontrolled price; and

(b) whether the coal supplied for the generation of electricity is sufficient to fulfill their requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Since coal is deregulated, the Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), the coal Public Sector Undertakings, are exercising the authority of fixing the prices of its products *i.e.* different grades of coal. The coal supplies to State owned electricity generating companies are made as per prices notified by CIL and SCCL.